

Northern Lights

NORTHERN MICHIGAN DISTRICT
CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

April | 2025



[District Website](#)

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[Global Nazarene News](#)

[Holiness Today Magazine](#)

[Holiness Today Podcasts](#)

Always Triumphant in Christ

by Dan Gilmore

In just a few days our pastors and other congregational leaders will gather at Clare Church of the Nazarene for the 40th Annual District Assembly & Conventions. These meetings are open to everyone and all are welcome. The theme of our assembly this year is "Triumphant in Christ". Following assembly we will enter Holy Week and reflect on the great matters of our everlasting redemption through the holy sacrifice and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. The triumphant glory and blessedness of that heavenly gift certainly moves me to awe and wonder.

In 2 Corinthians 2:14 the scriptures declare, "**Now thanks be unto God, who always causes us to triumph in Christ, and makes manifest the savor of His knowledge by us in every place.**" There are many heart-stirring Scriptural promises that raise our focus to heavenly power and holy victory and this triumphant promise shines great among them. David certainly understood this redemptive truth when he stepped out against Goliath. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego discerned this reality in facing Nebuchadnezzar. And we can be sure that Daniel was secure in this knowledge in facing the envy of the presidents and princes of Persia.

Like the pervasive power of smoke, the
scent of heaven's holy fire is working
through your life.

My heart is both stirred and challenged by this truth in these days. I seem prone to notice the size of the giant, the heat of the furnace, the fierceness of the lion before I remember the power of my God. And in these days I want to reengage with this sacred perspective. Let's purpose to allow this Resurrection season to reignite our passion for triumphant living and vital ministry. The additional promise in this 2 Corinthians 2:14 text is also stirring. Whether we are mindful of it or not, the precious aroma of God is resting upon His redeemed. Like the pervasive power of smoke, the scent of heaven's holy fire is working through your life, dear Christian. Wow! The manifest sense of God's presence is being communicated to those around you as you live in Christ. This is powerful. This is hopeful. May it also be motivational in us to engage in our great commission.

Northern Michigan District Assembly & NDI, NMI, NYI Conventions Friday and Saturday - April 11 & 12

Clare Church of the Nazarene - 10160 S. Grant Ave. Clare, MI



Dr. Carla D. Sunberg
General Superintendent

Friday

8:30am - Conventions Registration
9:30am - 2:30pm District Conventions
7:00pm - Assembly Worship Service

Saturday

7:30am - Delegate Registration
8:30am - Assembly Business

CHURCH OF  THE NAZARENE

4th Annual Half Million Mobilization Call to Prayer

From Easter to Pentecost | April 20 - June 8, 2025

From Easter to Pentecost, we are joining together in prayer, seeking the Lord for unity and resurgence in our churches and communities. The Half-Million Mobilization is an opportunity for every Nazarene in the USA/Canada Region to engage in focused prayer and action, asking God to move in powerful ways.

This year, we encourage you to access the free resources available to help guide your church, small group, or personal journey during this season. Let's pray together for a movement of God that leads to transformed lives!



[RESOURCES](#)



Where: ONU Centennial Chapel

When: Saturday April 12

9:00am - 4:00pm

Click [here](#) for information and to purchase tickets.



REGIONAL CELEBRATE LIFE

WHEN: MAY 8-10 (Thursday - Saturday)

WHERE: OLIVET NAZARENE UNIVERSITY

Youth from 4 states and 11 districts gather to share talents, create friendships and worship together.



[Event Information](#)

[Register](#)

[NMD NYI Website](#)



Bring BETWEEN BORDERS to Your Church

Through Faith Content Network, churches can now host special showings of the new movie BETWEEN BORDERS, which tells the riveting true story of a family whose lives and eternities were changed forever by the love and support of a Nazarene mission church.

Click [HERE](#) if your church is interested in hosting a showing.

Introducing Nazarene Missions Projects



Nazarene Missions Projects is an exciting way to support Nazarene missions worldwide! With over 300 vetted projects, there's something for every church and individual to engage with directly. These projects range from providing scholarships for Nazarene universities and translating Bibles into new languages to building district training centers and playgrounds for churches. Each Nazarene Missions Project helps pioneer new ministry opportunities, develop meaningful connections with those in need of Christ's love, or resource leaders and believers globally. Your church can get involved by giving, praying, promoting, or even going on a missions trip. Explore the full library of projects [here](#).

Preaching Collaborative Cohorts Are Expanding

Collaborative learning and targeted feedback are highly effective in developing preachers. The Preaching Collaborative team is responding to many requests to make content and cohorts available in different contexts by partnering with experts in other areas to develop relevant approaches for various ministries. The Preaching Collaborative is adaptable for the wider church but always with the same purpose: Creating more effective evangelistic preachers to transform communities.



Here are some of the projects we are working on.

- Cohorts for Children's Pastors – September 2025
- Cohorts for District Superintendents – May 2025
- Materials and videos translated into French – September 2025
- Materials and videos translated into Spanish – September 2025

For questions and inquiries, email Project Director Julie O'Hara: johara@usacanadaregion.org



NAZARENE YOUTH
INTERNATIONAL



Nazarene Youth Conference started in 1958 and has been impacting young people ever since! Next summer, NYC will be held in Salt Lake City, July 1-5, 2026. This event is transformational in the spiritual lives of high school students and in turn, has a significant impact on local churches. As your students begin to prepare for NYC 2026, we would love for you to help your congregation see the impact of this incredible event by showing your congregation our new [NYC 2026 Impact Video](#), which was released at M25. Find other NYC 2026 promo videos and resources by [clicking here](#).

NYC - 2026



Holiness Today Podcast

At the Holiness Today podcast you will hear insightful conversations with church leaders, sermons from across the region and archived audio that celebrates our shared faith and mission. You can listen to these great podcasts at any of the links listed on the right.

[Apple](#)

[Spotify](#)

[YouTube](#)

[Amazon](#)

[Podbean](#)

USA/Canada Kids



See the newest released resource...Let's Party - Half-Million Mobilization: Bringing People to Jesus. This is for children and families created through a partnership of USA/Canada Kids and Equip to Engage! It includes 8 Early Childhood and Elementary lessons, 8 Kids' Moments, 1 Preteen Event, 50 Family Devotions, and promotional materials. It coordinates with the adult sermons and devotions.

And it's ALL free!!

For more information about USA/Canada Kids, contact Rev. Trey Brooks, Co-Director of Equip to Engage, at trey@equiptoengage.org.

[resources](#)

Outreach + USA/Canada Region Partnership



The USA/Canada Region has partnered with Outreach to create Nazarene-exclusive products. You can check out these products at nazarene.outreach.com. We have worked to get our churches the best prices on banners, invites, and more! Currently, products are available in English with Spanish and French coming soon!



Free Course by Dr. Chic Shaver on How to Witness

[The Bible Speaks to Me About My Witness](#) is a free resource created by Dr. Chic Shaver. The sessions include 12 PDFs and eight videos to help people learn how to witness, which are excellent for individuals or small groups. [CLICK HERE](#) to begin!



The Discipleship Place - New Bible Study

The Discipleship Place library of Bible studies continues to grow monthly. You can now enjoy I & II Samuel.

Thanks to the work of Dr. Daryll Stanton and Natasha Skyba for their work on editing and revising! [Go to the library](#)

The Bless App

and USA/Canada Region Partnership

The USA/Canada Region's partnership with the BLESS App offers a powerful tool for churches to equip their congregations to live missionally. A church account on the BLESS App empowers your congregation to unite around the BLESS practices, fostering collaboration and amplifying impact. Church accounts enable leaders to connect their congregation with new movers, share prayer requests, celebrate missional stories, and organize initiatives that engage the entire community. This shared platform encourages your church to move together with purpose—building relationships, serving intentionally, and bringing people to Jesus.

Don't miss this opportunity to unite your church around God's mission. Learn more and get started today at theblessapp.com/usacanadanaz. Together, we can make a greater impact!



We're partnering with Gloo!

The USA/Canada Region is excited to partner with Gloo, a platform that helps pastors and churches connect with their communities and grow their ministries. With a free Gloo account, pastors can access Hubs, enabling collaboration with other churches and organizations. Hubs allow you to share resources, coordinate outreach, and expand your impact together. Additionally, Gloo offers free texting to help you stay connected with your congregation, engage new visitors, and nurture discipleship. These tools make it easier to invite people into the life of your church and build meaningful, long-lasting relationships.

Pastors can also upgrade to Gloo+ with 30% off using the discount code Nazarenechurch30. Visit gloo.us to learn more and start using Gloo today. Together, let's unite and share the hope of Jesus!

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|--|---|
| 2025 West Conference | 2025 Central Conference |
| October 28-30, 2025 | November 18-20, 2025 |
| | |
| 3 Crosses Church 20600 John Dr Castro Valley, CA 94546 | Community Christian Church 1635 Emerson Lane Naperville, IL 60504 |

EXPONENTIAL⁷

Pursuing Greater Things

Exponential is a growing community of leaders committed to accelerating the multiplication of healthy, reproducing faith communities. We equip movement makers with actionable principles, ideas, and solutions. We are passionate about accelerating multiplication through Multipliers! Click [here](#) for more information.

2025

- APRIL 11-12 - DISTRICT ASSEMBLY & CONVENTIONS - CLARE COTN
- MAY 3 - ABC'S OF DISCIPLE MAKING - BEAVERTON COTN
- MAY 3 - OLIVET COMMENCEMENT
- MAY 8-10 - REGIONAL CELEBRATE LIFE - ONU
- JULY 28-AUG 1 - KID'S CAMP - MANTON CAMP
- AUG 1-3 - FAMILY CAMP WEEKEND - MANTON CAMP
- SEPT 19-21 - PASTOR & SPOUSE RETREAT
- OCT 16-19 - HOMECOMING WEEKEND AT ONU
- DEC 6 - DISTRICT PASTOR CHRISTMAS GATHERING - PARK PLACE HOTEL, TRAVERSE CITY

2026

- APRIL 17-18 - DISTRICT ASSEMBLY - CLARE COTN
- JUL 1-5 - NYC - SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

2027

- JUNE 25-JULY 3 - GENERAL ASSEMBLY - KANSAS CITY, MO

upcoming events

WONDER

NAZARENE YOUTH CONFERENCE 2026

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH
JULY 1-5, 2026